

the heaviest burdens for their pet projects.

Mr. Speaker, the Republican recently proposed budget cuts inflicts even more damage to programs for children. Their plan has proposed:

A \$10 million cut for Healthy Start—a program which gives needed pre-natal care to expectant mothers.

A \$25 million cut for the Women, Infant, and Children [WIC] program that would knock 100,000 expectant women and newborn children out of a program which provides badly needed nutrition assistance.

A \$100 million cut for foster care.

Mr. Speaker, why was there not a single Defense Department or pork barrel project considered?

The petrified pork civilian marksmanship program still wastes \$2 million a year for free ammunition and recreational shooting.

What ever happened to America's family values? This plan is headed in the wrong direction.

FOOD FOR AMERICA'S CHILDREN MUST HAVE PRIORITY OVER SUPPORT FOR FOREIGN GOVERN- MENTS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MCHUGH). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Alabama [Mr. HILLIARD] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. HILLIARD. Mr. Speaker, the children of Alabama, like those of the rest of the Nation, depend on the food programs of the Federal Government. Some come from very needy families who cannot afford to feed their children.

In my district, one of the poorest in the Nation, these food programs for kids make the difference between health and sickness, or between the ability to concentrate or become distracted from their class studies. These programs make the difference between a successful student and one who fails.

In the 7th district of Alabama, nearly two-thirds of students served cannot afford to pay. Even field kids who cannot afford to pay for their breakfast meal under Federal guidelines receive food. Mr. Speaker, this is a catastrophe. We must take care of our kids. We must protect our kids. Cutting food programs will literally take food out of the mouths of young kids. This we cannot afford to do.

Mr. Speaker, we must prepare for the future. Those of us who wish to balance the budget do not wish to balance the budget on the backs of kids. There are so many other ways and methods we could make cuts in order to balance the budget.

Mr. Speaker, last year we spent \$4 billion defending Japan. Japan paid the United States \$2 billion of that \$4 billion we spent. We will spend \$2.4 billion over the next five years that will be taken from the food program for the support of Japan.

Mr. Speaker, last year we spent \$18 billion defending Europe. We will take

\$2.4 billion from the food program over the next five years.

Mr. Speaker, one year of defending Germany or defending China or defending the world will support the food program in this country for 5 years. I submit that we should take priorities, and that the number one priority should be our children.

Mr. Speaker, most of us would love to balance the budget. Each one of us, regardless of our party, believe in balancing the budget, but we cannot balance it at the expense of our children. I am opposed to including children's nutrition programs in block grant form. I am opposed, because I realize that, like my State, which is a deficit State, that money will be used for other purposes, directly or indirectly.

Let me say, Mr. Speaker, exactly how that would happen. If the money is sent directly to the State, and it is not earmarked just solely for food programs, but for other indirect costs associated with administering that program, then that money will be spent for highways, it will be spent for roads and bridges, it will be spent for other programs, and it will happen in this manner.

The money will go to the States, earmarked for the administration of the food program. Instead of buying food supplies, that money will be used to pay salaries of workers. At the present time, Mr. Speaker, the Federal program pays for the food supplies, and the State program matches it by paying salaries of the workers.

I am certain that the State will not pay the salaries of the workers. Therefore, the money that ordinarily will go for food supplies will go towards partially paying the salaries of the workers, and the workers' salaries that have been paid by the State, what will happen to that money? Mr. Speaker, you know and I know that it will be used to build highways, to build bridges, to repair roads, or for any other emergency that may occur.

I have been in the State government for 18 years. We have many trust funds in the State of Alabama. I have seen us raid those trust funds for other purposes than those intended by the fund itself, so I know what will happen. I suggest it will happen every day, all across America. There will not be just 50 programs, but every State will have a program. That program, Mr. Speaker, would not be sufficient to feed the children, to feed the kids, to feed the students in our country.

Mr. Speaker, the children, the kids, the students in this country deserve our very best. They deserve to be treated better than we treat them, and they deserve to be treated in terms of priority above the defense of Japan and above the defense of Europe.

IN THE WORLD OF NEWT GING- RICH, WE TURN OUR BACKS ON CHILDREN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gen-

tleman from Massachusetts [Mr. OLVER] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. OLVER. Mr. Speaker, first of all, I want to thank the gentlewoman from North Carolina [Mrs. CLAYTON] for organizing this time. We are all indebted to the people of North Carolina for your leadership on issues of equity, such as this.

Mr. Speaker, we cannot protest enough what is really going on right now in this people's House of Representatives. I hope there are some parents out there who have put their children to bed and are listening to tonight's discussion. If your child eats breakfast at school, eats a hot school lunch, eats at day care while you work, or has cereal or milk or orange juice purchased with WIC coupons, or eats any food from a food bank, perhaps at the end of the month when money is tight, or has a meal that is purchased with food stamps, and I know that food stamps do not just help people who receive welfare payments, but also help millions of full-time workers to make ends meet, if your child uses any of these, your child is at risk.

The new Republican majority in this House is waging a full-scale war on America's children. The first goal of this war is to cripple the effort to end hunger among America's children, and that is a cruel move. Thus far, Republicans have staged this battle on two fronts: first, in their welfare reform bill, the Personal Responsibility Act.

That bill turns all Federal child nutrition services into State block grants. I have already said that many of the children who benefit today are not even on welfare, but that does not seem to matter. Now, the idea of block grants is not all bad. We have other block grants for community services and community development that go to the States and work well. But look again. This is not just a shift in who runs the current nutrition services, it is really a dangerous shell game.

The Republicans washed their hands of any responsibility for the welfare of America's children, shifted that responsibility to the States, and at the same time cut billions of dollars needed by those States to adequately feed those children.

The second front of this war is the rescissions bill which was approved by the Committee on Appropriations just today. The Republicans today cut \$25 million from the WIC program. WIC provides nutrition to pregnant women that reduces the risk of having low-birthweight babies, thereby saving heartbreak and billions of dollars. WIC helps mothers buy infant formula for their babies, milk and juice for their preschool children.

These are a child's formative years, when good nutrition is crucial. Today's cut is just the beginning. Republicans